

UNCLASSIFIED

A89

UNCLASSIFIED

RELEASED IN FULL

PAGE 01 CARACA 01550 122357Z
ACTION ARA-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-15	AID-01	AMAD-01	A-01	CA-02	CCO-00
	CIAE-00	SJK-01	CTME-00	C-01	DODE-00	DS-00	EB-01
	FBO-01	HA-09	H-01	IMMC-01	INRE-00	INR-01	IO-19
	LAB-04	L-03	ADS-00	M-01	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OCS-06
	OIC-02	OMB-01	OPR-01	PA-02	PM-01	PRS-01	P-01
	RP-10	SCT-03	SIL-01	SNP-01	SP-01	SR-01	SSC-01
	SSO-00	SS-01	STR-20	TRSE-00	T-01	USIE-00	USSI-00
	FMP-01	/120W					

-----0E8AA9 122357Z /38

O 122112Z FEB 92 ZFF4
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8298
INFO USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PM

UNCLAS CARACAS 01550

E.O. 12356: DECL:N/A
TAGS: PREL, MARR, PINR, PHUM, ASEC, PGOV, VE
SUBJECT: PART 6: AFTER THE COUP ATTEMPT, FEBRUARY 12:
- NUGGETS

REF(S): CARACAS 01460

1. CAUSA R PROPOSES REFERENDUM
- -----

ANDRES VELASQUEZ, GOVERNOR OF BOLIVAR STATE AND HEAD OF
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 CARACA 01550 122357Z
CAUSA R (A LEFTIST, LABOR-BASED POLITICAL PARTY) TOOK OUT
AN AD IN FEB. 12 PAPERS CLAIMING THAT THE CONTINUED
SUSPENSION OF CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEES "IN A PERIOD OF
CALM" CONSTITUTES "A LEGAL DICTATORSHIP." IN SEPARATE
INTERVIEWS, PUBLISHED ON THE SAME DAY, VELASQUEZ AND
OTHER TOP LEADERS OF CAUSA R PROPOSED A NATION-WIDE
REFERENDUM TO DETERMINE WHETHER VENEZUELAN ARE CONTENT
WITH THEIR CURRENT GOVERNMENT AND WHETHER NATIONAL
ELECTIONS SHOULD BE MOVED UP FROM THEIR SCHEDULED 1993
DATE. THEY ALSO CLAIMED (WITHOUT PROVIDING DETAILS) THAT
SOME CAUSA R MEMBERS HAVE BEEN DETAINED SINCE THE COUP

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: NORMAN M BOUTON
DATE/CASE ID: 28 JUL 2008 200503656

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

ATTEMPT.

2. CALDERA/CELLI

- -----

FOLLOWING A MEETING ON AN UNRELATED TOPIC, BOTH ACCION DEMOCRATICA (AD) PRESIDENT HUMBERTO CELLI AND EX-PRESIDENT RAFAEL CALDERA MADE SEPARATE STATEMENTS TO THE PRESS. REFERRING TO CENSORSHIP, CELLI COMMENTED THAT THE GOV'S "EXCESSES" MUST BE EXCUSED BECAUSE, AFTER SO MANY YEARS OF DEMOCRACY, IT NO LONGER HAD A "CULTURE OF SUPPRESSION." "THE SUSPENSION OF CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEES," SAID CELLI, "SHOULD LAST AS LONG AS IT IS INDISPENSIBLE AND NECESSARY." THE AD PRESIDENT ALSO COMMENTED THAT PRESIDENT PEREZ SHOULD REDUCE HIS FOREIGN TRAVEL TO A MINIMUM. CALDERA, MEANWHILE, THANKED THOSE WHO HAD SUPPORTED HIS CRITICISMS OF THE GOV BUT LAMENTED THE "WRETCHED ATTACKS" (LINKING HIS POSITION TO THAT OF COUP LEADER CHAVEZ) FROM SOME WITHIN HIS OWN SOCIAL CRISTIAN (COPEI) PARTY.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 CARACA 01550 122357Z

3. MILITARY NEWS

- -----

ON FEB. 11 A MILITARY JUDGE TOOK DECLARATIONS FROM 40 OFFICERS DETAINED IN CONNECTION WITH THE ATTEMPTED COUP. THE DEFENSE MINISTER COMMENTED THAT THOSE RESPONSIBLE WILL FACE SEVERE PENALTIES UNDER MILITARY LAW. IT WAS ALSO REPORTED THAT THE FORMER COMMANDERS OF THE MILITARY GARRISONS IN MARACAY, MARACAIBO, AND VALENCIA (ALL REPLACED DURING THE FEB. 9-10 WEEKEND) HAVE NOT BEEN GIVEN NEW ASSIGNMENTS. MEANWHILE, AN OFFICIAL OF THE RETIRED OFFICERS INSTITUTE DISTANCED HIS ORGANIZATION FROM THE INDIVIDUALS WHO PUBLISHED A STATEMENT LAST WEEK CRITICIZING THE GOV.

4. UNIVERSITY

- -----

ACCORDING TO THE RECTOR OF THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY (UCV), LUIS FUENMAYOR, CLASSES ARE BEING CONDUCTED "WITH FULL NORMALITY." FUENMAYOR STATED THAT THE UCV HAD CARRIED OUT AN "EXHAUSTIVE SEARCH" FOR WEAPONS IN ITS DEPENDENCIES AND FOUND NONE. HE ASKED THE PUBLIC

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

MINISTRY TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO THE CAMPUS TO VERIFY
HIS CLAIMS IN ORDER TO PREVENT A POLICE SEARCH OF
UNIVERSITY GROUNDS. SKOL

UNCLASSIFIED

NNNN

UNCLASSIFIED